





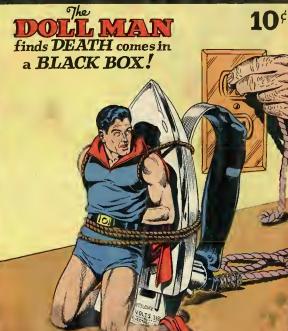




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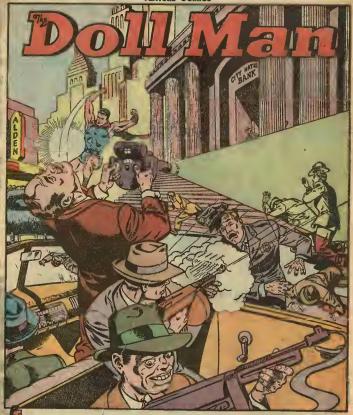
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Johnny O'Gorman was a typical ex-G.I. and the souvenirs he collected from oversess were just as typical? There were a few guns, bayonets and rustly helmets? The ONE EXCEPTION was a sinister looking black box which Johnny had found in a bombed-out factory in Germany? This was the souvenir which suddenly swept Johnny and a lot of other innocent people into a vortex of crime which didn't cease until the incomparable DOLL MAN took matters into his own hands when he discovered that DEATH CAME IN A BLACK BOX!







B-BUT -- GOSH! IT'S NOT RIGHT, MR. SIEGEL! HOW DO YOU KNOW --- GEE, WHIZ! THANKS! I WON'T LET YOU DOWN!

POPPA, ARE YOU GOING CRAZY IN YOUR OLD AGE? TWO THOUSAND POLLARS FOR THAT ... THAT JUNK ?

MOMMA, DON'T EXCITE YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE! SURE IT'S JUNK --- BUT REMEMBER , OUR BOY DION'T COME BACK!



WHAT WE'RE DOING FOR JOHNNY, WE MIGHT HAVE DONE FOR OUR OWN





WH -- WHAT ? P-PLEASE. MISTER! DON'T MAKE SO MUCH NOISE! MY WIFE IS A SICK WOMAN!





Compressing the molecules of his body with a super. human effort, Darrel Dane trens. forms himself into the mighty DOLL MAR! I HOPE I'M



















S . 18





EVENING NEWS K NATION'S SCIENTISTS SEEK ANSWER

TO GREEN LIGHT MENACE CHEMISTH IN EVILLAR















IT'S PROBABLY TOO LATE TO SAVE THAT DRIVER, BUT I CAN TRY TO SAVE THOSE MURDERERS---FOR THE ELECTRIC CHARY TILL HAVE TO TAKE TO CHANCES WITH THESE SPECTRUM-FILTER GLASSES!

























































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CALM YOURSELF, MONSIEUR BLAKE ! DRINK ZIS GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE -- WHEN YOU MAURICE --- BUT WARN YOU! IF HAVE RECOVERED YOUR YOU ASK FOR TEMPER, WE CAN DISCUSS ZE MATTER WIZOUT ANOTHER PENNY I'LL MAKE OUR DEALINGS PUBLIC MAKING A EVEN IF IT RUINS ME!

VERY WELL





















BARGG.





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WE COULDN'T HELP IT ... WE TOBY ... BUT NOT WERE SO CURIOUS ABOUT TOO HARD? I WANT HIM TO YOUR CLUE! IT LOOKS LIKE WE WERE JUST IN TIME! ANSWER A COUPL OF QUESTIONS



Next evening, as the Clover Club returns to formal....

WELL, MR. MASON, WHEN ARE WE GETTING ANOTHER CONTINENTAL HEADWAITER TO TAKE RACQUE'S PLACE?

WE FOLLOWED YOU, SWING!

NEVER, SWING! OF THE CONTINENTAL MANNER! FROM NOW ON, THE CLUB WILL BE RUN ON STRICTLY AMERICAN LINES!

LET HIM HAVE IT.







































milk softens the dough of a few animals, but the majority escape....





































































THE FALCON and THE FLEA

IT wasn't the newspaper atory about a boy dying in California from hubonic plague that took Darrel Dane west. It was the warning sent out to all hunters in that stata hy the Forest Service:

"Don't touch any ground squirrels in San Luis Ohispo County. They are infected with hubonic plague!"

The plague! The pestilence! The Black Death to Down through the ages it had been humanity a most mereiless killer, sweeping entire nations of their population in the Middle Ages.

Now it had struck again-in America!

Ground squirrels were the carriers. Darrel did a bit of studying on hubonic, looking for a new aernm, and found that there had heen deaths from the disease in America before, in 1907, at San Francisco.

Alarmists were husy at work scaring everybody, warning of another epidemic of the plague. No one seemed to pay any attention to modern sanitation, fumigation and rodent control, something the oldsters had lacked.

The country was frightened. The plague! Darrel set up a makeshift laboratory in an abandoned hunter's shack. It wasn't the hest thing that San Luis Ohispo County afforded, but it was in the midst of the ground squirrel coun-

try.

The aquirrels were plentiful, so it was simple

to snare several of them for examination. None had the hubonic fiea. Darrel searched them the second time. Same result.

He marked each squirrel so that he would recognize it if caught again, and extended hia search. He trapped squirrels for four days, examined them, let them go. No fleas.

Checking on the Forest Service wsrnings, he found that the squirrels they had examined were found in another region several miles away. He went there and started all over again.

As a promising young scientist, Darrel hated to admit failure; but he knew that Dr. Roberts was one of the top ranking biologists in the country. Why not invite Dr. Roberts out? Darrel felt a tinge of anticipation. Yes, and Marths. Dr. Roberts' daughter. It was Martha that decided Darrel. So he sent the wire.

Martha and Dr. Roberts arrived two days later, having caught the first plane from New York. Darrel had pitched a tent for himself, tarning the cahin over to the two.

"Darrell" cried Martha, leaping out of the hired car and running to the young scientist, "you look like Dan'l Boone with that beard!" Darrel had one, all right.

Dr. Roherts shook hands. "Well, lad, what's going on here?"

"Practically nothing," replied Darrel ruefully. "Haven't found a single infected heast."

"Patience, patience," said Dr. Roberts softly, "Progress isn't a matter of minutes,"

Darrel related his tests of the last few days. "We must try elsewhere, and test other animals hesides squirrels," said Dr. Roberts. "If squirrels harbor the fleas, perhaps rabbits do, or field mice."

Darrel nodded. "A good idea, doctor."

The next day, in a distant section, they were fortunate in finding a squirrel with several of the deadly fleas in its fur. They killed the squirrel and placed it on the ground. Then, trapping a large field mouse, they tied it near the dead aquirrel. When, an hour later they examined the mouse, they found several fleas in its fur.

"Ah," said Dr. Roberts. "That proves the flesa are not particular who carries them. They leave a dead hody and attach themselves to the nearest thing with a warm hody."

"Yes," said Darrel. "And that proves how easy it is to spread the plague. And how fast it can he done."

They continued their searches, finding several more squirrels and even a rabbit with the fless. Then they moved to a new area.

As they were setting up their equipment, an old prospector on a hurro rode down the trail nearby. He didn't look at them. But Darrel called a greeting. The old man looked up, startled. His face was a mat of hlack beard. Ha an-

swered curtly in a thick, foreign tongue. Then he kicked his hurro and was gone.

"Loquacious old duck," muttered Dr. Roberts.
"Yeah," said Darrel. "His saddlehegs were
full. Wonder if it was gold."

They got busy and spent the next two days testing rodents for plague fleas. They found none. But on the third day Darrel came upon a sight that gave him a start. A large faleon dived down, struck a rabhit, mauled it a minute, then was gone. Darrel tried to follow its course but the trees ent off his view.

"Now I wonder whose hird that was?" he said to himself, "Falcons are rare creatures. Someone must own him."

He waited in the hrush hoping to see the owner come into view, but no one came. He heard a crashing in the hushes not far awey, hut decided the noise had been produced hy a deer.

They caught sight of the old prospector again later that day. He was stuffing something into one of his saddlebags, but he was too far away for them to see much.

"Probably been eating his lunch," said Dr. Roberts.

"Mayhe." Darrel had an idea huzzing in his head hut said nothing ahout it. He watched the old desert rat move away through the trees. Could it be? he wondered. He would hring his field glasses the next day. If what he thought was true...

Ahout noon the next day as Dr. Roherts and Darrel Dane were eating their lunch, this time prepared by Marths, who had insisted upon coming along, a hig hird raced overhead with a whistling of wings.

All three looked up. Darrel said, "It's that falcon! Wait here, I'm going to see what's up." He raced away through the brush.

"Now, what's Darrel going to do?" Martha asked.

"I don't know," replied her father, "He's got some idea ahout that falcon, I guess. I never heard of falcons flying wild in this country."

"Maybe someone is a falconer," said Martha matter-of-factly. "Why not? Archery is an ancient sport, revived today."

Dr. Roherts nodded. "It isn't that, We'd like to know who owns this falcon."

Darrel chased through the hushes, ripping

his clothes on thorns, stumbling over roots. But at last he came to a small clearing where the falcon was mauling a rabhit viciously. The hird didn't hear him.

"I'll do it," said Darrel quietly, "Yes, that way I'll know."

Then a strange thing happened. Darrel, it must be remembered, is no ordinary mortal. By a powerful force of will he is able to concentrate the molecules of his hody and reduce in size to thing stature.

In a moment, then a fourteen-inch-tail mite was racing across the clearing. The Doll Manl

With a leap the Doll Man sailed to the falcon's back, grasping it about the neck. The hird fought to free itself hut the Doll Man clung tenaciously. In a moment the hig hird took off. It rose high above the trees, circled once, and then dived in a slant toward a distant part of the wood. It sailed down and landed on a hare rock near the old prospector and his burro.

"Ah," said the prospector. "You did a quick joh, my pet! Here." He tossed a hit of raw meat to the falcon.

The Doll Man had managed to slide off the hird's back and hide himself in a hush hefore the old prospector saw him. Now the tiny men watched.

The hearded ohap took a small vial from one of the saddlehags and, pulling on ruhher gloves, same to the falcon. Lifting the hird's feathers, he powdered the contents of the visl into the hack and upper wings.

"Now, my pet," he said, "you're ready for another flea hop!"

The Doll Man had seen enough. It was as he had suspected. With a hound, he hit the earth with both feet and hefore the prospector knew what had happened he struck him a mighty blow on the chin. The prospector tumbled backward and sprawled, motionless.

The Doli Man became Darrel Dane then, end made a quick examination of the man's saddlehsgs. They contained vials of bugs—hubonic plague fleas!

In falling, the old prospector loosened his false heard. Darrel jerked it away, and gasped. "Why, it's my old enemy, Black Bart! Spreading plague fleas for some enemy of mankind! This'll he Bart'a end, all right!"



























































































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